ranslation!

## Report No. 7

Aug 27, 1960

After lunch I went to the Lago Albano to meet Mykolas R. He did not participate in the competitions that day. When I entered the area reserved for sportsmen again as a journalist, I did not have to look for MYKOLAS R. long, because he approached me immediately. He was glad that I came. He said that it was a pleasure for him to speak in the native language with a person here in Rome. Today I tried to learn something more about him. He was born in the rayon Dukstas. His parents were farmers. Now he is 27 years old. Nationality - Lithuanian. Roman - Catholic. Married. His wife is a Russian, came to Lithuania from Russia. She speaks Lithuanian already. She is a simple worker. They are expecting a child. MYKOLAS R. graduated from the Pedagogical Institute in Vilnius. Now he works as a teacher of mathematics in one of the high-schools in Vilnius. His salary is 800.00 rubles per month. When I remarked, that this is not much, he said that the salary depends on the amount of lessons given during the month. Because of the sport he usually misses many lessons. He did not serve in the Army, but he passed special military training during his studies and, when he finished the Institute, he obtained also the rank of a lieutenant of the Red Army (lieutenant in reserve). His brother had also finished the Pedagogical Institute. He works now as a teacher, too. His elder sister is teacher at an elementary school in the city of PANEVEZYS. The younger sister is still attending the high-school. She is in the tenth grade now. His father is a kolkhoz farmer. He is already 70 years old. Gymnastics and sport attracted MYKOLAS long ago.

I inquired about the life in Lithuania now. He answered, that the life is gradually becoming normal, that it is much better than it was when Stalin was alive. Among other things he mentioned to me, that each Soviet sportsman was given 1,000 liras when they arrived in Rome from the Soviet Union. At the same

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time they were promised 30,000 liras more at the end of the Olympic Games. I advised him to buy something for the baby and take it back. He said he will think about it and certainly buy something. He thanked me for the counsel. They, the Soviet sportsmen, do not leave the Olympic Village until the competitions are not finished. They concentrate themselves and do not undertake anything which would have a negative effect on their form. They also try to keep their weight unchanged.

I raised also in a playful and jesting manner the very delicate question whether he is member of the Communist Party. He replied at once that he is not. However, when younger he was member of the Komsomol Organization. When he was advised to join the Party, he refused. He put it in the following words to me: "What use is it to join the Party". He said that he does not see any sense in it. I asked him, may be he needs something, medicaments, clothes or anything else what I could get for him. He refused to consider that. He said that he does not need anything, that there are enough of everything back home. He asked me not to make any expenditures on his behalf. On my part I tried to explain that we would be very happy to help our countrymen. Nevertheless he asked me not to do that. To my remark if it would do him any harm, he answered, that he does not know that, but that in any case it would be better to dismiss such an idea.

I learned from him that other Lithuanian sportsmen in Rome were: JUKNA, BAGDONAVICIUS, VAITKEVICIUS, and BIRUTE KALEDIENE. The Lithuanian Mrs. PIPYNIENE did not come to Rome, she was not selected for the Soviet team, because lately she was not in a good form and fell behind. JONAS PIPYNE did not come to Rome either. He was sick for a long time. Then he started training again too early and now he has serious complications with his foot. It is quite possible that PIPYNE has already finished his career as a sportsman. MYKOLAS R. told me his opinion that J. PIPYNE is not very serious person: he changes the institutes like gloves. Initially he attended the Institute of Gymnastics,

then he switched over to the Agricultural Academy, and now he studies at the Pedagogical Institute. Speaking about other Lithuanian sportsmen he mentioned the known boxer TAMULIS. The latter has been considered the best boxer of his weight in the whole Soviet Union. Unfortunately, during a fight in Poland he broke his arm. After having cured it, he broke the arm again during training. For this reason he could not participate at the Olympic Games in Rome.

During this our meeting MYKOIAS R. gave me a badge as a keep-sake. This badge was to commemorate a sporting event in Lithuania. He did not have any Russian badges. Even if he would have had; I would not have accepted such badges from him, he remarked. I replied, that he was certainly right on this point: I had no interest at all for these Soviet badges. But I accepted with great pleasure this Lithuanian badge which he gave me.

I spoke with him alone all the time. There were no other persons present. We agreed to meet tomorrow at the Lago Albano again.

The badge I obtained from MYKOLAS R. is attached to this report.

Sgnd. A. Simat

Sep 11, 1960

Aug 28, 1960

I spent the morning in the National Museum and the afternoon in the Forum Romanum. No success.

Sgnd. A. Simat

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